

# Art in Public Spaces Committee asks Moraga residents to participate in mural theme survey



Photo Teresa Onoda

The 36-foot-long wall will be a perfect canvas for the new mural.

By Vera Kochan

How often does an entire town get asked to choose the type of art that residents would like to see displayed within their community? The Art in Public Spaces Committee is on track to have a mural painted on the large wall (5 feet high by 36 feet long) outside of the Town

Chambers at 335 Rheem Blvd., next to Town Bakery. "The sculpture that's been there about five years is gone, so it's time to fill the space," explained APSC Chairperson Teresa Onoda.

During a March 8 meeting, the Moraga Town Council gave APSC the green light to allow the public to get involved in

the early stages of the mural process by participating in a survey. In an effort to bring even more visible art to Moraga, committee members are thrilled to have the community's input. "What I like is that the public art is going to be so highly visible," stated APSC Committee Member Holly Hartz.

"We've been looking for a spot for a mural for several years," said Onoda. "Now, it's an opportunity for the people of Moraga to have art that reflects their values. We're really looking forward to seeing what people want."

The survey is open to Moraga's residents (school age and up), and it basically poses the question: What do you believe is the essence of Moraga? There are only six questions to answer, and responding is as easy as checking a box from a list of possible APSC suggestions/ideas. There are also boxes labeled "other" where

residents are encouraged to come up with their own ideas. "It's a short survey," noted Hartz. "You should be done in about three minutes."

A sample of the six questions are: What do you like best about Moraga? What Moraga activities do you participate in? In 2-3 words, what defines Moraga? and What is your connection to Moraga? Participants of the survey are also asked for their own ideas when responding to: Is there something you would like us to consider about creating a mural that we did not ask?

The deadline for taking the survey is July 31, at which point the APSC Mural Subcommittee will pour over the public's responses and determine the most popular ones and how they can be tied together to form a cohesive mural. The Town Council will give a final review and their approval, at which point the search for an artist will begin via a Request

for Proposal (RFP). All costs associated with the mural (survey, design, installation and maintenance) would either be paid from Fund 134 or through APSC fundraising efforts.

The APSC currently has six members who meet quarterly to discuss other projects such as adding more sculptures around town, poetry readings and fundraising options. They're also looking into utility box art, along with engaging Campolindo High School and Saint Mary's College students to participate in additional art projects. APSC members occasionally go on field trips within the Greater Bay Area to get ideas for possible art projects for the town. For more information about APSC contact: tonoda@moraga.ca.us.

To take the Mural Survey visit: <https://bit.ly/moragamuralsurvey>, or Google: Moraga Mural Survey, click onto About Town -- June 16, 2023, and scroll down to Mural Survey.

# Moraga Town Council adopts Hacienda Biennial Budget

By Vera Kochan

Town staff had to come up with a separate Biennial Budget presentation during the June 28 council meeting with regards to the Hacienda de las Flores in order to avoid a conflict of interest due to the fact that Council Member Kerry Hillis lives within 500 feet of the facility. As such, Hillis recused himself from that portion of the proceedings.

With a vote of four in favor and one absent, the Hacienda Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 and Fiscal Year 2024-25 is as follows, thanks to a staff report by Administrative Services Director Annie To and Public Works Director/Town Engineer Shawn Knapp.

The Hacienda Operating Budget revenue with regards to events and rental for the FY 2023-24 Budget's total appropriations comes to \$326,335. These costs include \$54,800 for personnel; \$126,655 for maintenance personnel; and \$144,880 for operations and maintenance. There is a Net Operating Variance of (\$14,135), making the total revenue \$312,200.

Events and rental for FY 2024-25 Budget's total appropriations comes to \$335,616. These costs also include \$56,380 for personnel; \$130,358 for maintenance personnel; and \$148,878 for operations and maintenance. The Net Operating Variance is (\$18,358), making the total revenue \$317,258.

The Hacienda Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Project has a carryforward from FY 2022-23. The Laguna Creek Restoration at the Hacienda - Phase 2 is \$223,000; and the Hacienda's Metal Entrance Fence and Gate \$42,000 which totals to \$265,000.

For the FY 2023-24 Budget, the Laguna Creek Restoration continues at \$56,000; the Metal Entrance Fence and Gate continues at \$3,000; and the Hacienda Creek Fence comes to \$34,000, all totaling \$93,000.

Lastly, the FY 2024-25 Budget for the Laguna Creek Restoration is projected at \$2,707,000; and the Hacienda Parking Lot Retaining Wall Repairs will come to \$119,000, all totaling \$2,826,000.

**TREE SCULPTURE**

COMPLETE TREE CARE

*Proudly serving the East Bay since 1965!*

Fully Insured ❖ Certified Arborists ❖ License #655977

**(925) 254-7233 ❖ [www.treesculpture.com](http://www.treesculpture.com)**

## 2022-2023 Giving Campaign

# Thank you MEF top sponsors.

### Champion Sponsors

\$20,000+



**FORE OUR SCHOOLS**

See all of the 2022-2023 MEF Sponsors at [moragaeducation.org/20222023-sponsors](http://moragaeducation.org/20222023-sponsors)

### Diamond Sponsor

\$15,000+



### Platinum Sponsors

\$10,000+

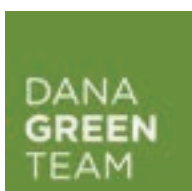


**AVENUE**

public relations & marketing  
[AVENUECOMMS.COM](http://AVENUECOMMS.COM)



**CURVE JUMPER**



Become a 2023-2024 Sponsor at: [moragaeducation.org](http://moragaeducation.org)

